

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Long Ret Jan
Larson

OLC 75-1133

13 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of Representatives of OSI with Dr. Ronal Larson,
Office of Technology Assessment

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1. I called [] Director, OSI, and discussed the attached memorandum from [] Chief, Civil Technology Assessment Center, Physical Sciences and Technology Division, SI. I stressed that paragraph four would indicate that [] intends to formalize a liaison between his office and Larson. I noted a strong objection since OTA is an arm of the Congress and that this close relationship could present serious problems in the future. STAT

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2. [] fully agreed and was unaware of the arrangements that were being made. He said he would discuss this with [] and assured me that any contacts with Larson will be limited and he will so instruct []. STAT

[]

Assistant Legislative Counsel

Attachment

Distribution:

Original - Subject (w/att) ✓
1 - OLC Chrono (w/o att)

[]

OLC:PLC:fmc (typed 27 May 1975) []

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29 April 1975

File 75-0943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Dr. Ronal Larson, Office of Technology Assessment

1. On 24 April 1975, [redacted] and the undersigned met with Dr. Ronal Larson, Office of Technology Assessment (OTA). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a technical study which the Midwest Research Institute is conducting for OTA on the subject of solar-electric energy. The meeting had been arranged as the result of a request by OTA's Director, Emilio Q. Daddario (copy attached); the Director of OSI, [redacted], had cleared the contact with the Legislative Council prior to the meeting.

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2. Dr. Larson provided a copy of the OTA draft final report, Solar On-sight Electricity, dated April 11, 1975, for our review and comment, asking that we review those technical parts for which we were aware international (foreign) development was currently underway. He stated he felt the international contribution had been particularly weak and hoped we might be able to check what was there and make suggested additions where practical. OTA's definition of solar-thermal includes only those conversion processes and technologies providing electricity.

3. Both the studies technology forecasting and impact assessment methodologies were discussed in some detail and a good deal of technical reference "Horse-trading" was conducted. Dr. Larson asked that we have our economists look over the fossil fuel prices models (pp 84 and 85) to see if the values used were comparable with those being used internationally. He also had several questions re Soviet solar activities: "What was the status of the Soviet Solar Institute?" and, "What had become of the Soviet solar 'tower of power' concept?" One final question, "Are there any international (foreign) energy R&D programs which appear to

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SUBJECT: Meeting with Dr. Ronal Larson, Office of Technology Assessment

be ahead of the US"? We noted that it appeared foreign countries seemed to be pursuing the "hydrogen-economy" concept more actively. Dr. Larson agreed with the observation, stating that it had not even been included in the House's present energy program and that he had actually forgotten it when advising the committees; he stated there was still time to get it in the Senate version.

STAT 4. We agreed to review the study; have our non-nuclear energy contractor, [] look over those technical parts they had expertise in, and get back together with Dr. Larson the week of 5 May. At that time we plan to have

STAT [] OSI, two foreign solar experts, join the discussion. Dr. Larson was told a good deal of our information on foreign energy R&D was classified, at least confidential, and asked that if he had a security clearance it be forwarded to OSI's security officer. He thought he did have a SECRET clearance which is on file at Georgia Tech University where he is an Electrical Engineering Professor; he will ask the University's security office to get in touch with our office.

STAT

[]
Chief

Civil Technology Assessment Center
Physical Sciences and
Technology Division/SI

Distribution:

- STAT 1 - DDS&T []
STAT 1 - D/SI []
1 - D/OER []
1 - Leg. Council
1 - C/PSTD/SI
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STAT OSI/PSTD/CTAC/[] msp [] (29 April 1975)

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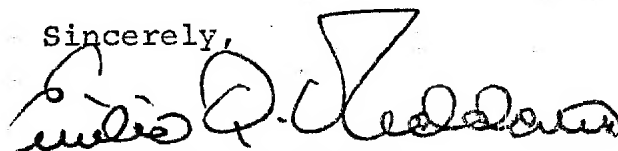
The Honorable William E. Colby
Director, Central Intelligence
Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

We understand that the Central Intelligence Agency has been or is currently involved in the analysis of international solar energy research and development. OTA is nearing the end of a study for several House and Senate Committees concerning the use of solar energy for the on-site generation of electricity and auxiliary heat. It may be helpful if your people in that field would care to hear what we are doing as we approach the end of our assessment, and it would be appreciated if we could get some ideas from you before finalizing our own effort.

Dr. Ronal W. Larson is in charge of our solar energy project and could be contacted directly if the suggested meeting should come about.

Sincerely,



EMILIO Q. DADDARIO
Director

OTA
Dr. Larson /
224-7027
7044